

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 and 9-17 are pending in this application, of which claims 1, 10 and 11 have been amended. Claims 7-8 have been canceled. No new claims have been added.

None of the prior art references applied to reject the claims in the Office Action of July 6, 2004 discloses or teach that:


a "frequency of the drive signal varies within a range including a resonance frequency of the vibrator in the form of sawtooth waves, the sawtooth waves comprising a portion inclined with respect to a time base and a portion perpendicular to the time base."

The claims are now in condition for examination.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

ARMSTRONG, KRATZ, QUINTOS,
HANSON & BROOKS, LLP


William L. Brooks

Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 34,129

WLB/mla
Atty. Docket No. **000831**
Suite 1000
1725 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006
(202) 659-2930



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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Enclosures: RCE; Petition for Extension of Time